

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PRS-01 /044 W

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R 011118Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8903

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU

COMUSMACHTAI BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 15817

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, TH, US

SUBJECT: U.S./THAI NAVAL EXERCISE

REF: A) CINCPAC PALNO BANGKOK 240335Z JULY

B) BANGKOK 15581

C) STATE 181384

1. AS INDICATED IN REF. A, THE SUBJECT U.S./THAI NAVAL EXERCISE IS A ROUTINE JOINT AMPHIBIOUS TRAINING EVENT TO BE CONDUCTED BY SMALL ELEMENTS OF THE ROYAL THAI NAVY AND MARINES AND THE U.S. NAVY AND MARINES DURING AUGUST 21 TO 27. THIS EXERCISE HAS BEEN PLANNED FOR ABOUT A YEAR AND IS FOR COORDINATING AND CONDUCTING JOINT OPERATING PROCEDURES BETWEEN FORCES OF THE TWO NATIONS. THE EVENT WILL BE IN TWO PHASES. THE FIRST AUGUST 21 - 23 WILL INCLUDE PARTICIPATION BY ABOUT ONE COMPANY OF U.S. MARINES AND THE USS DULUTH, AN AMPHIBIOUS TRANSPORT SHIP. THE THAI PARTICIPATION FOR THIS PHASE WILL BE ONE LST WITH NAVAL AND MARINE COMPLEMENT OF APPROXIMATELY 100 MEN. THE EXACT LOCATION FOR THIS AMPHIBIOUS LANDING HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED AT THIS TIME AS NAVAL OFFICIALS WISH TO SELECT THE LANDING BEACHES AT THE TIME OF THE EXERCISE. WEATHER AND TIDE CONDITIONS WILL BE PARAMOUNT IN THEIR

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DECISION. HOWEVER, IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT PHASE

ONE WILL BE NO CLOSER THAN 90 KILOMETERS TO THE NEAREST POINT ON THE THAI/CAMBODIAN BORDER. THE SECOND PHASE FROM AUGUST 24-26 WILL INCLUDE PRACTICE ARTILLERY FIRING BY THE MARINE ELEMENTS AT THE ROYAL THAI MARINE TRAINING CENTER AT CHANTABURI, WHICH IS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 20 KILOMETERS FROM THE CAMBODIAN BORDER. BOTH PHASES OF THE EXERCISE WILL TAKE PLACE ON ROYAL THAI MILITARY FACILITIES.

2. THIS TRAINING EXERCISE DOES NOT INVOLVE U.S. FORCES STATIONED IN THAILAND. THE NAVY ELEMENTS ARE FROM THE U.S. 7TH FLEET AND THE U.S. MARINE ELEMENTS ARE FROM THE PACIFIC FLEET MARINES.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EXERCISES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO15817
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750266-0469
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750887/aaaaczgt.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <24 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S./THAI NAVAL EXERCISE
TAGS: PFOR, MPOL, TH, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006